

App. No. 09/863,120  
Amendment

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested. In the above amendment claims 1, 6 and 9 have been amended, no claims have been canceled, and no claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-13 are pending in the application.

Advisory Action Requested

If this response does not result in a Notice of Allowance, Applicants respectfully request a timely Advisory Action.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,847,712 to Salesin et al. ("Salesin et al."). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

In the final office action the Examiner pointed out that Applicants' claims did not recite the limitation of "animation of the image". (Final Office Action mailed 10/20/04, page 2, last paragraph, second sentence). As such, Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to recite imparting vibrations to each of said line drawing image pieces "to produce animation of the line drawing image". This amendment is supported by Applicants' specification at, for example, page 46, line 24 to page 47, line 10. Independent claims 6 and 9 have been amended in a similar manner.

The amendment to Applicants' claim 1 further clarifies the differences between that claim and Salesin et al. Namely, as Applicants asserted in their last amendment, Salesin et al. only describes still images and does not describe animation of the image. The Examiner would seem to agree that this is a difference between Applicants' claim 1 and Salesin et al.

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since the Examiner pointed out that Applicants' claims did not recite the limitation.

In addition, the Examiner has now cited the Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary definition of "vibrate" in an attempt to show that Salesin et al. discloses Applicants' recited "means for imparting vibrations". Specifically, the Examiner asserts that Salesin et al.'s mention of adding "waviness" teaches "means for imparting vibrations". However, Applicants respectfully disagree. Namely, in Salesin et al. an image is processed as a still image, not as a moving image, and Salesin et al. does not move the still image to make a moving image. Therefore, Salesin et al. does not disclose "means for imparting vibrations" as is recited in Applicants' claims.

As such, Applicants submit that the rejection of amended independent claim 1, as well as amended independent claims 6 and 9, should be withdrawn. Similarly, the rejections of the claims that depend upon independent claims 1, 6 and 9 should also all be withdrawn for at least the same reasons.

No Fees Believed to be Due

No fees are believed to be due to file this amendment.

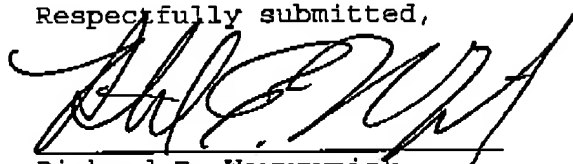
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CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the above amendments and remarks place the pending claims in a condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. However, should there remain any outstanding issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Richard E. Wawrzyniak at (858) 552-1311 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Date: 1/13/05

Respectfully submitted,



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